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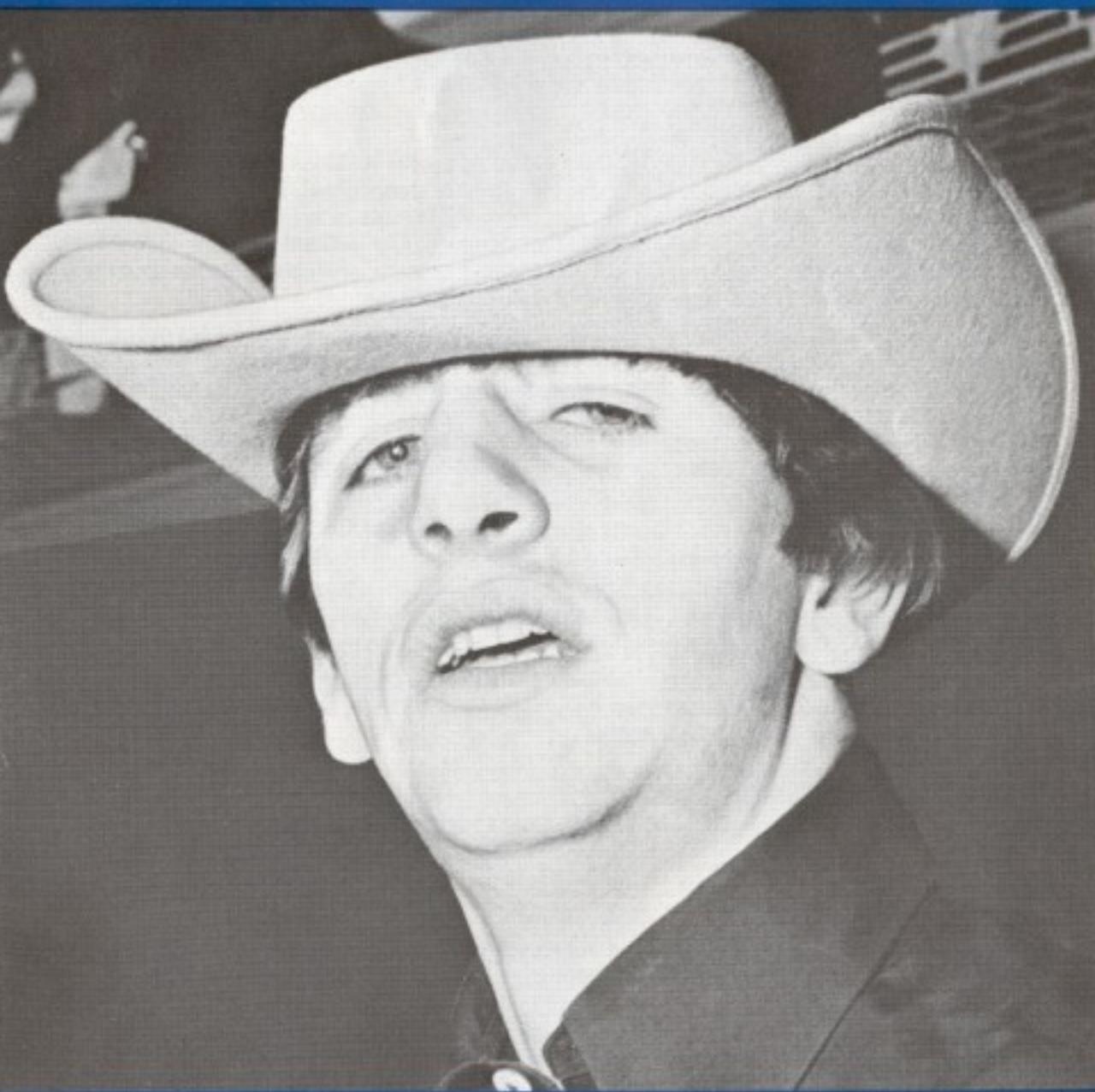
Beatles

MONTHLY

BOOK

No. 14

SEPT.
1964
2nd
YEAR



EVERY MONTH

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The Beatles Book

SEPTEMBER 1964

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Beatles cartoons by Bob Gibson
Beatles Book Photographer - Leslie Bryce, A.I.B.P., A.R.P.S.

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Editorial

Hi There!

AND A VERY BIG WELCOME from all of us to the millions of fans in America and Canada who are joining us for the first time this month. John, Paul, George and Ringo send their very best wishes and hope that their magazine will result in millions of new friendships being made between Beatle People all over the world. The official Beatles Book will be published BI-MONTHLY in America and Canada—but each edition will be made up of Two British Monthly issues. So no one will miss anything, OK?

I CAN'T THINK OF ONE OTHER STAR who has worked harder, or travelled further, or appeared before more of their fans, than the Beatles have done during their reign as the disc kings of the world. No matter how many shows they do they always seem to get a terrific kick out of the appreciation that you show in the audience. And they really do love to see their fans at London Airport to welcome them home after they've been away for some time. It gives them something to look forward to during those long, long plane journeys.

NEW STORIES AND RUMOURS about the boys seem to spring up every day. Most of them are so far fetched they are hardly worth answering, but just to put the record straight, Frederick James will be dealing with a whole host of them in the next issue.

MOST OF THE PIX that have appeared in The Beatles Book have been taken by our own special photographer Leslie Bryce and he has written a feature for this issue telling you what it is like to be "SHOOTING THE BOYS" all over the world.

PLEASE DON'T SEND IN ANY MORE REQUESTS for Pen Pals for the time being. We've had so many that it'll take at least a couple of issues to get the pile down to a reasonable level. I'll let you know when we can accept them again.

ON BEHALF of Anne, Bettina, Bob, Leslie, Billy, Frederick and everybody else who helps to put The Beatles Book together I'd like to say thank you to all those who wrote to us with good wishes for our second year. It was great hearing from you.

Johnny Dean

Editor.

P.S. Don't forget to send a stamped addressed envelope if you want a reply to your letter. This only applies to readers in Great Britain as stamps are only acceptable in their own country.

Mal Evans, Beatles' Equipment Manager, looks very happy about the new gold Roamer watch that George has just given him. He had his busted on that hectic Liverpool trip, and as soon as George heard about it he promptly went out and bought him another one.







First Floor, Service House, 13 Monmouth Street, London, W.C.2.

Fan Club Telephone: London COVent Garden 2332

NEWSLETTER

September 1964

DEAR BEATLE PEOPLE,

This month we're introducing an important new service for Fan Club members. As you know the club has a current membership of over 58,000 in the United Kingdom alone—elsewhere in countries as far apart as New Zealand and Canada there are official branches which have equally impressive membership lists. The point is that a club of this size cannot send out special items of news to members in a hurry. The average Fan Club has a membership of two or three thousand and it is a comparatively simple matter to rush out a duplicated newsletter to keep everyone informed about up-to-date information. In our case it has to be a major operation if we want to mail to nearly sixty thousand Beatle People all over the British Isles!

We have pleasure in announcing that the Fan Club Offices are now able to accept telephone enquiries from Beatle People. The special telephone number to call is **London Covent Garden 2332**. This number is available immediately for the sole purpose of helping fans to obtain answers to questions about the Beatles. In particular the Club Staff will be able to confirm dates for forthcoming concerts by the Beatles and supply information about Airport arrival or departure times whenever the Beatles are travelling in or out of the Country. **The Fan Club telephone service will operate from ten in the morning until six in the evening every weekday—Mondays to Fridays inclusive.**

American Fan Club Address: Beatles (U.S.A.) Ltd., P.O. Box 505, Radio City Station, New York, 10019.

Here are one or two ways in which you can help to make the telephone service successful:—1. Make your enquiry as brief as possible so that other members aren't kept waiting too long.

2. Don't ask for individual people by name—you can rest assured that each member of the fan club staff will be in a position to give you the same up-to-date information. If we are not available personally you may find the phone is answered by Mike, Rosanna, Monica or any other member of our office staff at the Club Headquarters. They'll all try to help you as much as possible.

3. If the question you ask just cannot be answered fully because there is no information available you will be told this immediately. This doesn't mean the club is trying to be unco-operative—maybe you'll be asked to call again later when the club expects to have an answer for you.

4. You are quite likely to get an engaged signal when you call the club because a lot of other members may be trying to reach us at the same time. It won't mean we've left the phone off the hook and if you keep on dialling you'll get a clear line in the end.

The first important occasion when the club's telephone service can be of real help to Beatle People will come later this month when The Beatles are due to return from their second triumphant tour of America. Remember the fabulous Welcome Home scenes at London Airport last time the boys came back from the States? More than 12,000 Beatle People were at the airport to cheer in the plane.

It is impossible for us to promise that advance information about flight numbers and airport arrival times will be entirely correct. If you're planning to go out to London Airport to welcome in the Beatles from America this month please check with the Club Offices by telephone a day or two beforehand to make sure of the latest information about the arrival time and date for the boys.

AT PRESENT WE CAN TELL YOU THAT THE BEATLES WILL PROBABLY FLY IN FROM NEW YORK AT APPROX. NINE THIRTY IN THE EVENING ON MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER. THEY ARE BOOKED ON FLIGHT NUMBER BA 510.

If you do go out to London Airport that evening please help to make the occasion as successful as possible by obeying instructions given to you on your arrival by Airport officials and by gathering only in the special areas in which they request you to wait. You can rest assured they will direct you to the best possible position so that you will be able to see the plane taxi in and watch the boys coming down the steps and across the tarmac to the Airport building.

Lots of good luck,

Bettina Rose

Anne Collingham

BETTINA ROSE,

ANNE COLLINGHAM,

Joint National Secretaries of The Official Beatles Fan Club



THE OFFICIAL

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SHOOTING THE Beatles

by Leslie Bryce

LESLIE BRYCE leads what millions of fans would call "The Dream Life". He's a photographer. The man who has been so close to the boys on travels round the world, America, Holland, France, Australia, that he's often dubbed "the fifth Beatle". The man who has snapped the foursome in bed, in theatres, in hotels, in dressing-rooms.

He knows their moods, their whims. And he admits to being still baffled about it all. For Leslie was once personal assistant to Baron—and photographed the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and Sir Winston Churchill.

From there he branched out with Tony Armstrong-Jones, now Lord Snowdon. And it was when he finally set up his own business that "Beatles Book" Editor Johnny Dean asked him to become picture man to the boys. Now let Leslie tell you his thoughts after more than a year of incident-packed Beatle-chasing.

"It was all very odd at first. I really only vaguely knew the Beatles existed... certainly I didn't know them by name. But the thing that strikes me most forcibly is the way other peoples' attitudes towards them have changed in just a year.

"I remember a visit to Margate with them. The general public barely knew them—only the faithful fans. They stayed in a hotel and I remember getting them to fix a huge umbrella outside by a table—it would have made a good

picture. But the manager roared out and told us to stop.

"I've stood in peoples' gardens, climbed trees—anything to get an unusual picture. In those days, I got no help at all. Now, of course, everybody goes out of their way to help the Beatles. I get invited into homes to take pictures...

Thousands of Shots

BY now I've taken thousands of pictures of the boys. My favourite? That was one taken on the stairs outside their old flat in Green Street, Mayfair. Johnny Dean held the flash-light for me—and it wouldn't work at first. The boys offered to light matches for me. Then we got a real beauty. In fact, Brian Epstein had 50,000 copies printed for the fans.

"Incidentally, that particular session underlined the chief problem of a photographer. You arrive for the session, find the door answered by a sleepy-eyed Ringo—and then you have to get the others up, ready and presentable! Maybe you even have to go out and get them some eggs and milk for breakfast—at well after mid-day!

"Funniest session? Definitely on the train in the States, going from Washington to New York. Ringo weighed down with cameras, George dressed as a waiter and serving drinks, George again flat out on a luggage-rack, signing autographs.

"The boys are NEVER too aloof to pose for funny pictures. Well, not pose exactly. They fall into a

situation, then let you get a picture of it. I have to carry my camera around, at the ready, all day... just on the off-chance. One good shot was when Paul had finished brushing his teeth, spun round and said: 'Take this, Les'. I did. But if I'd had to go and collect my camera, he'd certainly not have posed again. The boys HATE RE-posing a picture. And they're now fed up with those straight, four-heads-together shots that everybody takes.

"At the end of a day with the boys, I usually suddenly remember I haven't eaten anything. That's the way it is. Nervous energy, just waiting for that really different shot. There's not so much physical tiredness about this work.

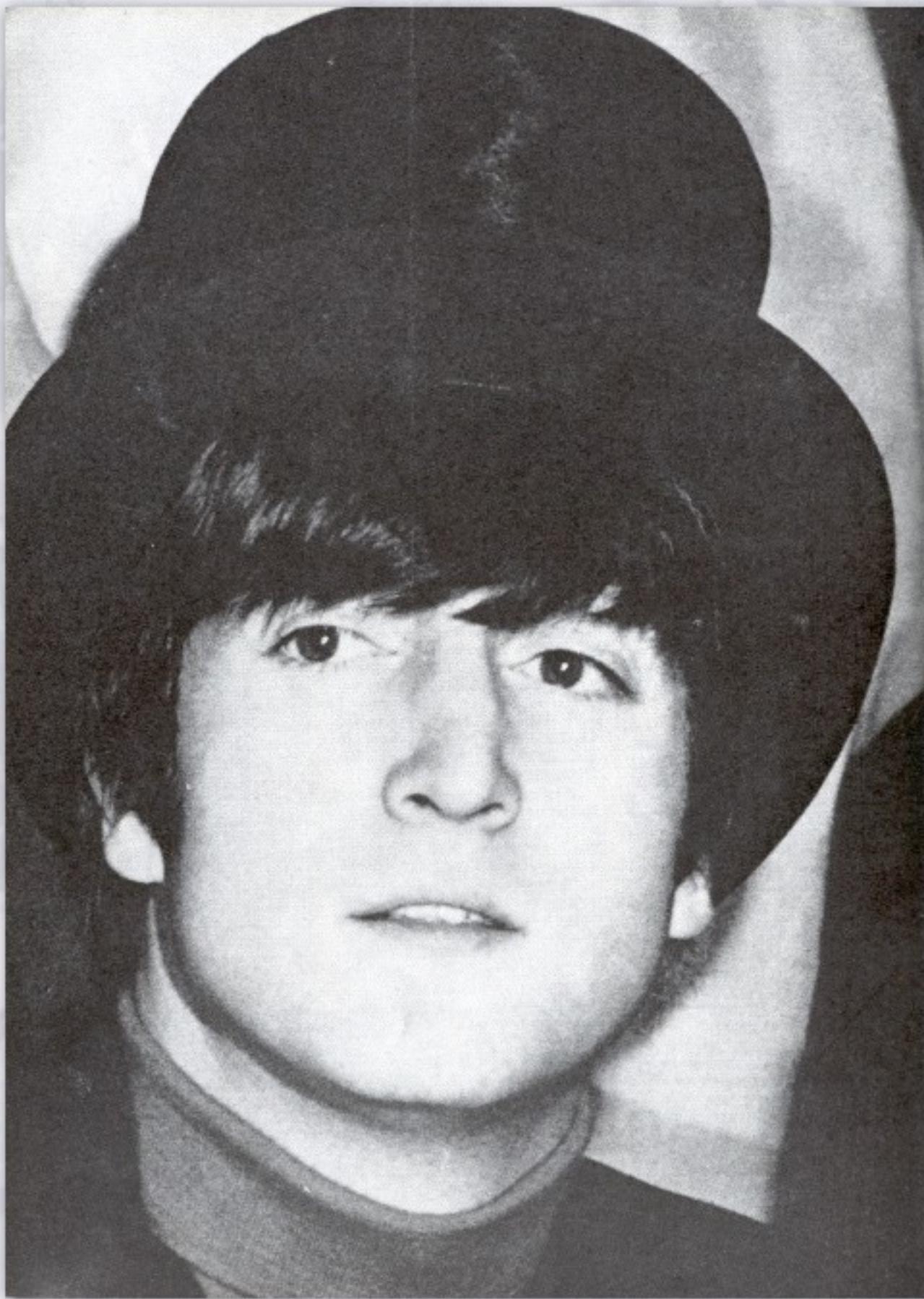
Off-The-Cuff Paul

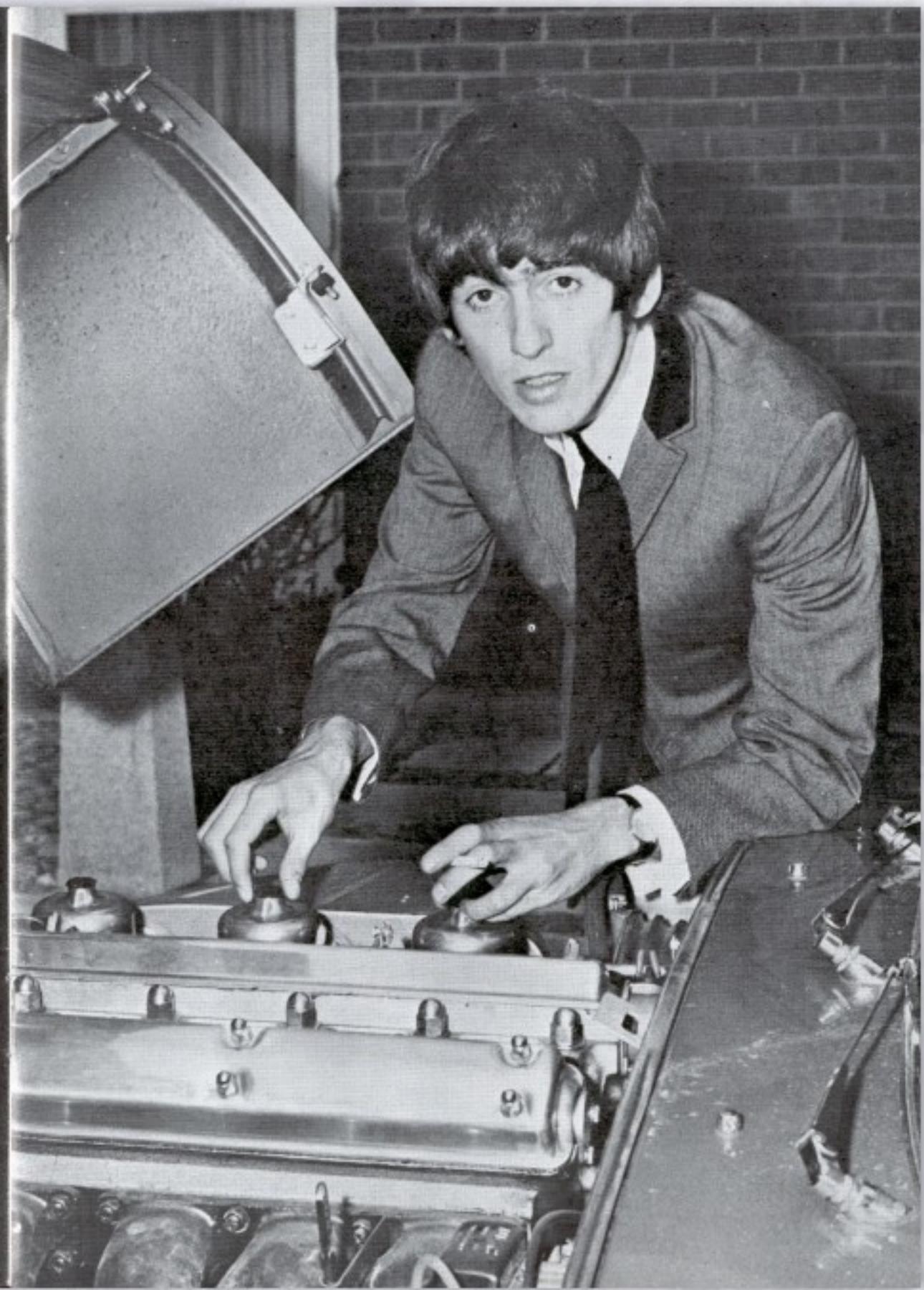
PAUL is specially good at the off-the-cuff pictures. One slight problem is John. He wears his glasses off-stage—in fact, he can't see without them. But he's not photographed in them. So when I'm going to shoot a sequence I have to say: 'Glasses off, please John'. Then we get on.

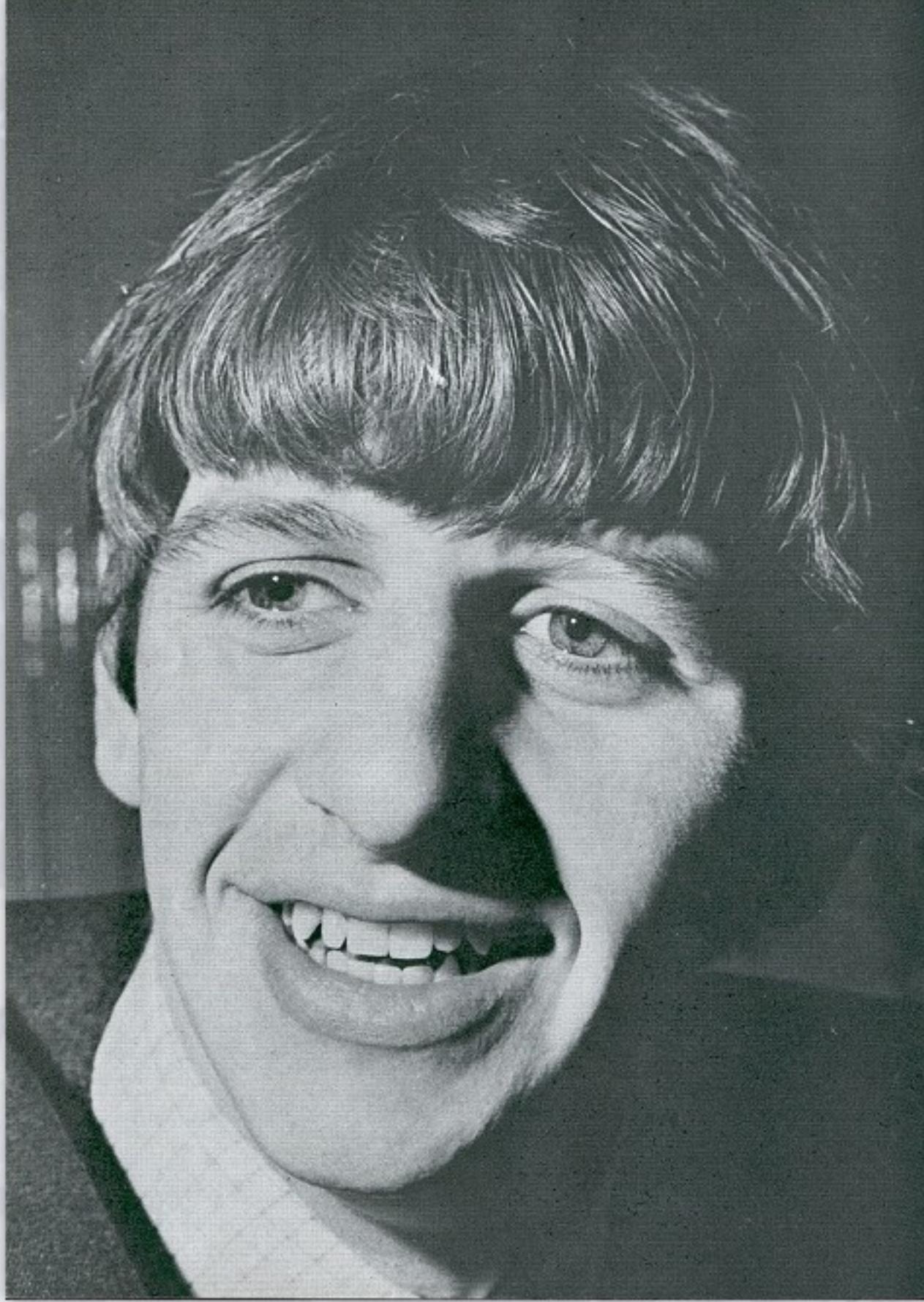
"But it is difficult to get ALL four looking good at the same time. Thousands of pictures have been spoiled because just one has been caught off-guard. It really is easier with the unrehearsed ones. For example, they may go into a clog-dance or something—just out of the blue. If you get your

Continued on page 31

That's "Beatle Book" photographer, Leslie Bryce (a bit like Bob Monkhouse, don't you think?) looking over Paul's shoulder. Pic was taken with Leslie's camera by George in Denmark.







Ringo speaking

A special series of four Frederick James interview features in which John, Paul, George and Ringo talk to Beatles Book readers

66

TIME and tide wait for no man but at least you can move your deck-chair up the shore. Sounds good that doesn't it? Punchy sort of way to kick off my two pages. No, I know I didn't think of it myself and Paul said it here in his BEATLESPEAKING piece last month but I still think it's a good way to kick off my two pages.

The watched pot never boils but who needs hot water in this weather? That's one of my own. Worldwide copyright, Starkey Esq., 1964, Limited.

Been away for your holidays yet? Every time we're getting ready to go off abroad on a concert tour I feel just as though I was preparing for a holiday. We always have to go through the packing bit. You know the routine. Three pairs of socks in the case and four pairs still to come from the laundry. Won't need more than three ties... better pack nine just in case. Shirts? Buy some new ones when we get there. Oh, look! Here's that pair of boots George said he'd lost in Australia. Wonder what they were doing in my case?

American Tour

BY the time you read these pages we'll be halfway through our American tour. At the moment this bedroom looks like the tail-end of a Jumble Sale. Clothing, clothing, everywhere and not a cuff-link to match. Anybody want to buy seventeen odd cuff-links before I sling them in this case?

We've got so much flying to do from city to city in America I don't think we'll have much time for sightseeing. Still, we can move our deck-chairs up the shore. Hope we get a chance to go back to the Peppermint Lounge in New York. One of the most lively joints I've been to. You can twist on the stage between shows and the groups that play there are a knock-out. People are surprised when they hear the Lounge is only about a quarter the size of The Cavern in Liverpool

—but there's just as much excitement in both places.

Hey! I should be saying "Thank You" to all the Beatle People who have been writing in to say they enjoyed seeing "A Hard Day's Night". You know that part where I go wandering off on my own and chuck darts into a bloke's buttox and everything? Well, if they'd agreed to write in an extra two or three hours of script they could have had me running off to the Wild West and becoming a cowboy couldn't they. No, I can't actually RIDE a horse or anything but I've always been fond of watching Westerns and I can just see myself as The Starr Kidd shooting it out with the sheriff in a sort of "High Noon" setting. We had a lot of fun making the film. How about that scene by the river when you see two boat racing crews practising and one lot falls in the water. That bit wasn't in the screenplay at all. It just happened on the river where we were shooting a scene and they shifted the cameras round and caught it.

Same but Different

EVERYONE has been asking just recently what we think of American girls and how the scene differs over there from what we're used to finding at home. Hard to answer these questions simply. It's like saying "What's the water like to drink in America?" You have to say "Well, it's the same as it is in England... only different". You know what I mean. I think a lot of America's Beatle People are younger than they are over here. On the last trip fans kept calling us on the phone in our hotel rooms and we loved hearing the different accents. When some of them told us their ages we were amazed to hear them admit to being only 9 or 10 years old. Their conversation made them sound like teenagers. The younger girls make a lot more noise too. Once when we dashed out of an exit at the side of the Ed Sullivan television studios just off Broadway a crowd of about



six girls swarmed all over our car. By the volume of their screaming you'd have thought there were sixty rather than six. For a moment the driver looked petrified. Then in his fab Brooklyn accent he shouted "Gee, I'm getting out of here before they start chewing through that window".

Concerts in Stadium

THE other main difference is that concerts are held in huge stadiums or arenas instead of cinemas and theatres. At other times the same places are used for anything from a rodeo to an ice hockey match. They have platforms without curtains or wings or anything. At first we were surprised when dozens of kids started rushing to the front to take flash photographs or movie pictures of us while we were playing. But the security blokes didn't stop them unless too many crowded in front of the platform together. Over here the theatre managers have to be very strict about that sort of thing and in most cases all photography is forbidden during performances. Despite the bright spotlights, I expect a British artist who wasn't used to having flash-bulbs popped off in front of his face while he was singing could really wonder what was happening!

Enough about America. Wherever I go—whether it is Sweden, Australia or anywhere else—I begin to get homesick before it's time to fly back into London. Not homesick for London itself particularly but just for all the things we're used to doing at home in England. Even if there are new places to be seen for the first time I soon get fed up and wish I could see some of the familiar sights at home instead.

More Recordings

WHEN we get back from America and Canada on Monday 21st September it will be high time we made some more recordings. I look forward to going into the studio. In a way it can be a bit terrifying if you think about the importance of a recording session. Whatever you play or sing in those three hours will go on being heard all over the world for months to come. But we don't think about it in that way. We look at a recording session as the real challenge and we like to go on working on each number until we don't think we could improve on it if we stayed in front of the mikes for a week. Yes, there'll be a new single to make after America and I don't suppose it will be too early to start thinking about our fourth LP album as well.

Afterwards we're looking forward to the autumn tour of Britain before we start rehearsals for our Christmas Show at Hammersmith Odeon. It sounds as though it's going to be another fab production because there are all sorts of people joining us at Hammersmith. Like Freddie and the Dreamers, Elkie Brooks, The Yardbirds, Sounds Incorporated and Jimmy Savile.

But that's a long time off. Here and now this evening we've got to finish packing our cases for America. Tomorrow we've got a final pair of concerts in Blackpool and on Tuesday we're off to the States. Goodness knows where we'll be by the time you see this issue. In Dallas or Toronto? In New York or Cleveland? See you all when we get back. Won't be long. Be good—and don't forget to move your deck-chair up the shore will you?"

BEATLES BOOK SUBSCRIPTIONS

If you are unable to obtain a copy of your Beatles Book from your local newsagent you can have it sent to you by post every month. Just send a cheque or Postal Order for £1-1-0d. to The Beatles Book, 244 Edgware Road, London, W.2.
If you live overseas your local post-office or bank will arrange for an International Money Order. Overseas £1-5-0d., U.S.A. and Canada \$4.



Anyone looking for a hairdresser? Dusty Springfield looks pretty satisfied with her new one!



TOP: Beatles arriving for a special TV show at ABC Studios, Teddington, by the Thames.
BOTTOM: Ringo, George and Paul watch the programme on a set in the Production Control Room.



A DAY TO REMEMBER

by Irene Snidall

I was invited by a local reporter, Sue, to accompany her, on a spare complimentary ticket, to the first house show at Sheffield City Hall on Saturday, May 25th 1963, and then during the interval between houses we were to meet The Beatles.

I'd tried to stay calm and unhurried all day, but when The Beatles came on-stage for their spot in the first house my nerves started to go, and I screamed right along there with 3,000 other fans.

As soon as the first house ended we were out of our seats and making our way, as best we could through the milling throng, from the circle to the dressingroom backstage.

John and Paul were changing from their stage-clothes into something more casual: a black T-shirt topped by a grey denim shirt for John, and Paul struggling into a black polo-neck sweater—from which his tousled Beatle-cut and grinning face suddenly emerged.

Introduced to Paul

Sue hurriedly introduced me to Paul and John, who solemnly shook hands with me—and then she had to dash off in search of the photographer.

I felt terribly self-conscious, clutching my handbag and L.P. cover, but my nervousness disappeared as soon as Paul began talking to me. That is my first impression of Paul. Very friendly, seems to be really interested in whoever he is talking to, and able to put one completely at ease within seconds. Soon he was chatting as though we had known each other for years.

While chatting, Paul relieved me of my L.P. cover, signed it with such a long message that I really believed he must be writing his autobiography—and passed it across to John who did the same. Ringo and George appeared on the scene around that time and kindly autographed the cover too.

John's Accents

When asked if he would like a cup of tea, John answered, "Ee, aye, bah gum, a' will that", in his very best broad Yorkshire accent (spoken in a luscious, deep dreamy Liverpool accent such as he possesses, the combination is hilarious), and immediately changed to his Professor Lennon voice to add "And a little something to eat, too please!" That is something I found terribly attractive about John; he is always

changing from one thing to another—and then back again! His humour is off-beat—and it would be pointless writing down any of the things he said as they would never be as hilariously funny in print.

Ringo, I know, always seems to look so unhappy on-stage, but off-stage his face creased readily in a grin, and he chatted away quite happily, obviously enjoying a chance to do the talking for a change, as the other Beatles always seem to act as spokesmen. (Remember this was just over a year ago!)

Beatles Music

Music is their life. They eat, sleep, and breathe music, even playing discs constantly back-stage on their portable record-player which was fitted into a tiny space on the table specially cleared of jelly-babies—presents from adoring fans. The boys were absent-mindedly stuffing themselves with the sweets all the time, yet the table was still overloaded, and only once a mock-quarrel broke out between John and George as to whom a certain packet of jelly-babies belonged!

I stayed and chatted with each in turn: sat on the sofa with Ringo while he tried hard to convince me that the small patch of hair above his ear really was going grey ("My eyebrow is too, but it's not noticed 'cos it's blacked-out with pencil for on-stage"), asked Paul if they were planning a special surprise for his 21st birthday which occurred a few weeks later, ("nothing they do would surprise me"); sent George a deathly white by asking him to sign an autograph 'To Barbara' (he'd thought I'd said 'to a barber'—and we all know of George's acquaintance with that gentleman!), and generally chatted to John—as best I could between his goonery—about their differences of past and present, and their hopes for the future.

All too soon it was time to leave—much as I hated doing so. The second house was well under way, and various artists kept leaving the dressing-room to do their spot on-stage, and in between, the compere would dash down to make hurried arrangements for the party they were all having in the hotel afterwards.

With The Beatles wishes of 'Good-luck, and see you again soon' ringing in my ears I floated through the dressing-room door—and back into the auditorium to see them again in the second house!

A truly fabulous ending to a fantastic day!







LETTERS from BEATLE PEOPLE

Dear Beatles Book,

George isn't he? He couldn't be! He can't be! He wouldn't—would he? He would tell his fans if he were surely! It's too terrible to think about! Even if he were, which I don't think he is, he would still be a lovely Beatle!!!

Hoping that he isn't,

Yours Beatle-Everly,

Ann Perryman, Wisbech, Cambs.

George answers:—

If I were—which I'm not—of course I would let you know—whatever it was! What I'd like to know is—what is it that I'm supposed to be going to do, Ann?

Dear Beatles,

Please help me. What can you do with parents? Ever since Dad found out that Paul and John paired up once as the Nurk Twins, he has been calling me Frederica Nurk. He also has individual names for you—Paul McCarthorse, George Harrassed, John Lemon, and Ringo Stark (staring honkers). Also, he told me recently that when I was very young, he found me with half a beatle—sorry, beatle—in my mouth. He couldn't find the other half. Perhaps that explains why I love you so much.

All my loving and lots more,

Debbie (Frederica) Long, Upminster, Essex.

P.S. Dad really likes you, especially Ringo, but he won't admit it.

Dear Beatles Book,

We are three girls who went to see the Beatles' Northern Film Premier, A Hard Day's Night. When the Beatles came into the Odeon theatre, we were standing in the foyer. John came first followed by George, Paul and Ringo. We couldn't believe that we were so close to them, it was the nearest we have been to them, since the good old Cavern days. Well we remembered the Beatles alright, but we didn't think they'd remember us. The next evening in the "Liverpool Echo", George said, "The best welcome I had was when entering the theatre, I saw six girls that used to sit on the front row of the Cavern", three of them were us. You can imagine how thrilled we were.

It just goes to show, that the Beatles still remember their old Cavern friends, who have been fans for years.

Anne, Vicki and Marie, three old Beatles fans, Chidwall, Liverpool, 25.

P.S. The film is great.

Paul answers:—

We'll always remember the Cavern days. None of us can understand why people are so surprised when we recognise old friends. It's only natural isn't it. I must admit that George has the best memory though, he never forgets a face.

Dear Editor,

I was one of the lucky people to be present at the Royal Premiere of "A Hard Day's Night" at the London Pavilion.

I lead a very dull ordinary life, but listening, and watching and reading about the Beatles makes me very happy. It was necessary for me to give up smoking to pay for my ticket and the trip to London but it was worth it. For once I was part of the magic that surrounds George, Paul, John and Ringo—at least I felt as if I was! My seat in the theatre was to the back, immediately near the entrance to the ladies cloakroom. Imagine my surprise when (just before the film started) I happened to glance sideways and see the Beatles all coming through the door marked "Ladies", saying "Ssh!" to each other!!

It was such a lovely evening for me and my only regret was that I was unable to buy the souvenir programme as they had sold out—if anyone should have a spare one I'd be so glad to hear of it.

Sincerely,

Jean Westgate, Brighton, Sussex.

Dear Beatles,

I have seen your wonderful film five and a half times and I intend to see it many more times.

John, you had me in fits of laughter in the train and in your bath. Wow you are gorgeous! Ringo, you were marvellous and so cute. George, I loved your scene in the fashion department. Paul, you looked very handsome, but where was your scene on your own?

On behalf of your millions of fans, I would like to thank you four fabulous boys for a really original film.

My love to you all,

Julia Eason, Westerham, Kent.

Ringo answers:—

How come you saw the film half a time. Did you come in halfway through? We're all very glad that Beatle People liked "A Hard Day's Night". It was a bit strange for me because I've never thought of myself as an actor before. Still it was a great experience and all of us can't wait for the next one—provided we can find a story that is, and they don't want me to say anything!!!!

"Those pictures really must come down",
 Said Mum one day with a great big frown.
 "I've forgotten what the wall looks like underneath,
 And when they're down it'll be a relief."
 "Oh no!" I wailed, "please Dad be kind,
 And make my mother change her mind".
 "I agree with your mum", my dad replied.
 "But dad" — "No buts", my dear dad cried.
 I went up to my room and on the bed sat,
 Tears began to trickle all big and fat.
 Never mind, Ringo's picture seemed to say,
 Tomorrow will be another day.
 Buck up says George it's not all that bad,
 There's no need to be all that sad.
 To take them all down it took all afternoon,
 It looked bare and empty did my little room.
 The pictures were piled on the bed and the floor,
 And some were falling out of the door.
 They were crammed in a suit-case which only just shut,
 Then under my bed the photo's were put.
 A week later it was opened and oh, cries arose,
 George had some selotape stuck to his nose.
 Ringo's drums were crumpled and torn,
 Which made little Ringo only weep and mourn.
 Paul's Hofner was sadly out of tune,
 John's mouthorgan looked more like a stewed prune.
 George had some strings snapped on his guitar,
 And couldn't find his plectrum though he looked
 near and far.
 Now this sad problem isn't a problem at all,
 'Cos my dad's put a peg-board up on my wall.
 (Hope you all like it 'cos it took me ages to think up).
 Likes n' loves,
 Hugs n' (beatle) bugs,
 With one each for John, Ringo and Paul, and an
 extra big one for George.

Judi Hall, Hugton, Nr. Liverpool, Lancs.

Dear Johnny and all,

Congratulations on the end of the 1st Year of the Beatles Monthly Book. Keep it up. It's great, the gear, fab.

Paul didn't look nice all bespectacled, well, I mean, he looks so fab without them. But I think the idea of the four separate interviews with the fab foursome is great, and I liked the splash on the lowdown on the film which I have seen five times by the beginning of August. Can anyone beat that?

I'd just like to say a big thank you to Billy Shepherd for all the features he has written in the Beatles books and for the book "The True Story of the Beatles". "Ta—Marvellous". Sure wish I knew the boys as well as you do, Billy.

Love and Best Wishes,

Roy, Battersea Park, London, S.W.11.

Dear Johnny,

In the August issue of "The Beatles Book" there is a picture of Paul on the front and he is wearing glasses. Whose are they? Are they John's? He looks quite handsome in glasses, but I think he looks even better without them.

Yours Beatle Crazily with best wishes to the four fab boys,

Diana French, Cumnor Hill, Oxford.

John answers:

Yes, you're right Diana—they ARE my glasses. Paul just popped them on to his nose one day in the flat and Les whipped out his camera and took a picture.

Dear Johnny,

Thanks for all the really fab pix in the Beatles Books. I don't cut them out like some people do because that would ruin the books but I do look at them all frequently (yes, all thirteen—hurry up with the next one 'cause they say something about that number, ne'st-ce pas?).

I really flipped over the pic on the back of the August edition (this year's) of George imitating a Dutch carthorse (are they different, George?) What a gorgeous, well-groomed mane! I love the forelock. What well-shod hooves and good teeth too! Altogether the nicest horse I've ever seen. Does he give rides?

Lots of love (to be shared with George).

Janet Richardson, Sutton-on-Sea, Lincs.

P.S. It's all right, George—I like you on two legs best. P.P.S. Hope you know what I mean when I say "flipped"—some people don't.

Dear Mr. Dean,

In most all English teen-type magazines about English Beatles and their fans I find that there is a large mistake concerning the fans. Whenever "the boys" come back home from an overseas trip or tour or such, there are signs and letters awaiting them asking "Why did you leave us?" and "Please don't leave us again!". Being one of the people overseas myself, I can tell you with some authority that at no time have they ever left you! I believe that in their extensive travels, at least to us (U.S.), they have taken a great big beautiful part of Britain to the rest of the world, never really leaving any of us behind! Boy! how I'd love it if they did leave you for us—but they probably wouldn't love it, so really none of us would either.

An envious Calif. girl—anxiously awaiting Aug. 23rd at the Bowl.

Kris Norris, Pasadena, California, U.S.A.





TOP: Paul and George talk to Billy J. Kramer in the summer of '63 when his first hit disc, "Do You Want To Know A Secret," was climbing the hit parade.

BELOW: How they used to travel! One of the many Beatles' vans with Neil behind the wheel. Ringo and George next to him, and Paul and John in the back.





by Billy Shepherd and Johnny Dean

AND so the first record came out. "Love Me Do". It'll always have its place in pop history simply because it was the first national release of the Beatles... but it was important for another reason, too.

Britain and America, pop-wise, were different. Unlike America, Britain didn't have SPECIAL areas, where SPECIAL artists were given the full boosting treatment. Take Nashville, Tennessee, heart of the Country 'n' Western side of music. There, the locals really built their "neighbouring" performers to big-time fame.

A big all-out onslaught in one part of the States—and the artist was soon latched on to by the whole country. But it didn't happen that way in Britain. We were all ONE country . . . different areas didn't show different characteristics.

That is until the Beatles happened along. They were very much a LOCAL matter. The fans who'd dug the boys in the Cavern, in the halls round the City, were determined that their favourites would be accepted by the whole country.

Merseyside Loyalty

IT worked, of course. The fans on Merseyside bought the record and their loyalty swung the balance. After what seemed, to Paul, John, George and Ringo, an eternity, the disc broke into the Top Twenty.

The boys were actually in Hamburg. Just a-worrying. Said John, as they wandered away to snatch a few hours' sleep after a long club session: "We'd be mugs to expect too much from this record. Remember we've had a heck of a lot of disappointments before. . . ."

They remembered, all right. They had a built-in defence mechanism . . . determined not to be too optimistic, not to hope for too much. That way they couldn't be hurt if

nothing much did happen to the disc. They had friends around them all the time.

Back to Britain . . . to see their disc reasonably well in the charts, though certainly not a raving great hit. Suddenly, journalists wanted to know about the boys. Not TOO much, but the interest was growing.

Big Vicious Circle

IT was John again who growled one afternoon: "It's a funny business, this. It's one great big vicious circle, really. Nobody wants to know about you until you get in the charts—but how do you get in the charts if nobody wants to write about you in the first place?"

His view was the same as many other groups. Groups who didn't have the loyalty of a whole city behind them, or the shrewdness of a manager like Brian Epstein.

The boys were taken round the newspaper offices in London, specially the main trade papers. Four fringed young men, shepherded in and introduced, simply, as: "A new group—the Beatles". One experienced journalist almost literally ran for his life. He was the Sinatra-Fitzgerald sort of enthusiast and admits now: "I couldn't see what these shy, awkward, gauche lads had to do with music. . . ."

A junior reporter on the same staff conducted the interview. He says: "I couldn't understand a word they were saying. I mean that. They mumbled, gabbled—that Liverpool accent was thicker than anything I'd heard from pop singers before."



Shy Beatles

THEY WERE shy, yes. Ill at ease. They only really became animated when they were kidding around among themselves. They obviously had a team spirit going for them. You'd ask a question, they'd exchange glances among themselves . . . then one would say something.

"It wasn't much good for me, because I sometimes felt I was simply being left out of the conversation."

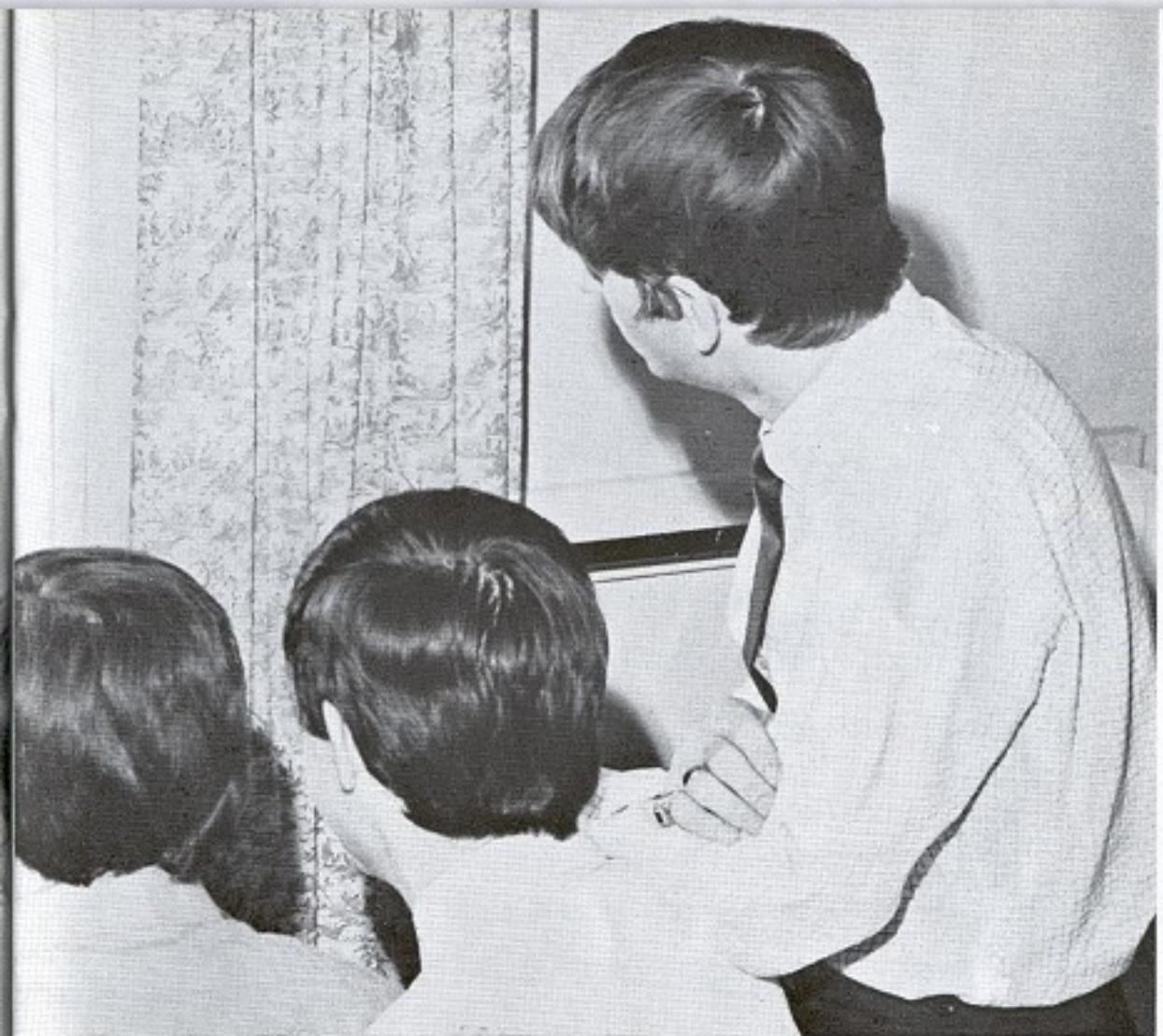
I watched a similar interview. Ringo was very much the new boy—remember he'd joined the group at the same time the first record was made. He sat, rigidly upright, with rather a morose expression. Occasionally he smiled. He said little.

John was the chief talker. He lounged casually in an arm-chair, clearly relaxed,

obviously enjoying this so-early taste of having his views jotted down for future use. They smoked, tugging at king-size cigarettes with agitated gestures. But John often handed over the conversation to Paul or George . . . for the simple reason that his memory of actual events early in the Beatle career was not too strong.

George the Talker

GEORGE, even now a very deliberate talker had the best recollection of dates and names. His brow furrowed in concentration as he outlined how the boys had started, how they got their name. Paul was definitely perkier. His face was always animated, he smiled quickly . . . often jumping from his chair to look at something in the newspaper office.



This, remember, was all new to them. They'd THOUGHT about meeting journalists, back in those days when they'd made their disc and were waiting for it to "happen". But face to face with questioning, they found it strange.

George looked up quickly once, having studiously inspected his unpolished black boots, and said: "Do people REALLY want to know all these things about us? Things like what we think of girls, or music, or what we have to eat?"

important. Ringo was spasmodically and drily humorous, but he obviously didn't want to talk about Beatle hopes and ambitions. It was all too new for him.

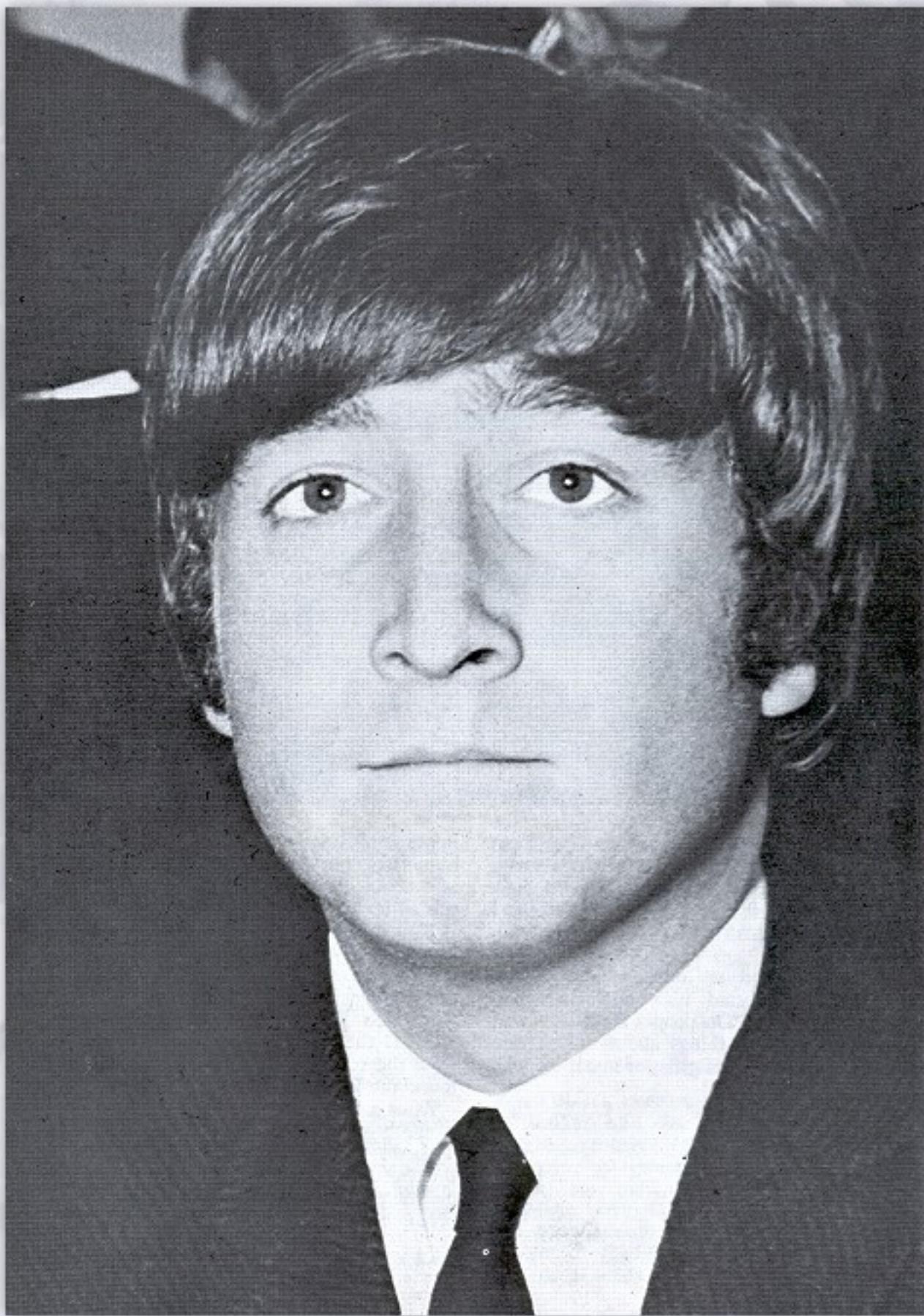
Now music-business journalists are good blokes. They like their work and they really are pretty close to the business. They're not the sniping, knocking sort of newspapermen you often get on national papers. They LIKED the Beatles. But they mostly come from the south, from London . . . and they found the Beatle accents difficult to decipher.

After a few interviews, the Beatles gained strength—John, Paul and George, anyway. This was mainly because Brian Epstein gave them a free hand. He trusted them to answer questions, pose for pictures, without being prompted.

Becoming News

FACT was that the boys were fast becoming NEWS. Which meant that anything and everything about them was

To be continued in Beatles Book No. 15





THIS MONTH'S BEATLE SONG

I CALL YOUR NAME

Written and Composed by JOHN LENNON and PAUL McCARTNEY

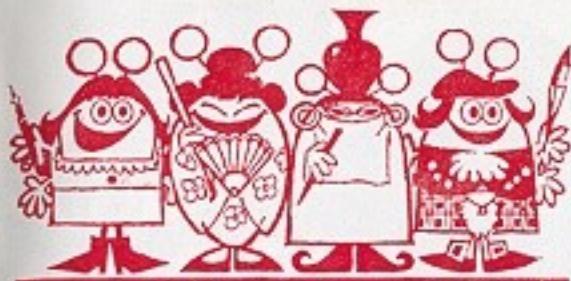
Recorded by The Beatles on the "Long Tall Sally" E.P. and released on June 19th 1964.

I call your name but you're not there,
Was I to blame for being unfair?
Oh I can't sleep at night,
Since you've been gone,
I never weep at night,
I can't go on.

Well don't you know I can't take it,
I don't know who can,
I'm not going to make it,
I'm not that kind of man,

Oh I don't sleep at night,
But just the same,
I never weep at night,
I call your name.





BEATLE Pen Pals

(Addresses are in England unless otherwise stated)

Patricia Mullen, 2129 North Nagle Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60635, U.S.A., wants p. p. in London or Liverpool.

Myfanwy Jones, 73 Twelve Acre Crescent, Minley Estate, Cove, Farnborough, Hants., wants p. p. in America.

Sandi Wilson, 6600 So. Hoover Street, Los Angeles 44, California 90044, U.S.A., wants p. p. in England.

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Mary Wood, 25 Springfield Road, Yeovil, Somerset wants p. p. in America and Sweden.

Valerie Headrick, 1819 Field Drive N.E., Albuquerque, New Mexico, U.S.A., wants p. p. in Liverpool, London, Australia or Sweden.

Connie Pugh, 62 Fernhead Road, London, W.9, wants p. p. anywhere.

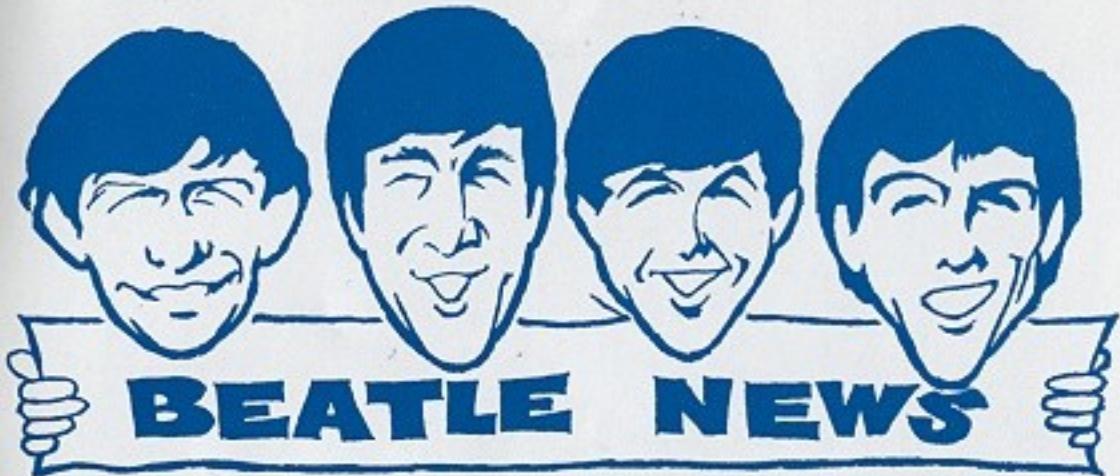
Susan Bell, 2864 Washington Road, Augusta, Georgia, U.S.A., wants p. p. in England.

Anne Bartholomew, Cherbourg, Wells Road, Malvern, Worcs., wants p. p. in Rhodesia or Iceland.



British Heavyweight Boxing Champion, Henry Cooper, with the National Benzol Trophy, which he presented to the Beatles. Looks as though Paul is thinking of taking on Cooper in the ring!





CHRISTMAS SHOW

THE BEATLES Christmas Show will start at the Hammersmith Odeon on Thursday, December 24, and run until Saturday January 16. The box office will open on Monday September 7. Artistes appearing with the Beatles are Freddie and The Dreamers, The Yardbirds, Sounds Incorporated, Jimmy Savile, Elkie Brooks, Michael Haslan and The Mike Cotton Sound.

CHANGING GUITARS

I wonder how many Beatle People notice that George changes his guitars several times during a performance. He prefers to use his Gretsch on numbers like "All My Loving", "She Loves You", "Things We Said To Day" and "Beethoven" but switches to his twelve string Rickenbacker for "A Hard Day's Night", "Twist And Shout" and "You Can't Do That". And at long last one manufacturer is planning to make a special guitar which will be named after him.



George checks his American dollars.

GUITARIST RINGO

Yes, the Beatles will soon have FOUR guitarists. Ringo has been playing about with the other's guitars for a long time now and can play fairly well. George recently took on the role of tutor and promises to produce a reserve player by Christmas. That'll complete the doubling up because all the Beatles can get by on drums.

New Single Session

The boys had a special recording session on August 11 to run over several new titles for their next single. But they do not expect to settle on a number before they return from their American and Canadian trip.

BILL AGREES TO DRIVE JOHN'S ROLLS

'Big' Bill Corbett, who has been the driver of the boys Austin Princess supplied by a hire car firm, has agreed to become John's chauffeur and drive the £5,000 Rolls Royce that he bought recently.

PAUL AND GEORGE PLAY PRACTICAL JOKE

During the drive back to London after their Bournemouth concert on August 2 the boys stopped their car outside a transport cafe in a small town. It was after midnight and it was the only place to get a cup of tea. While road manager Neil got the cups Paul and George got out to stretch their legs. Suddenly Paul started to tear up and down the main street pretending he was a mod gone crazy. George immediately took on the role of rocker and started chasing him. Lights were flashed on in bedrooms and several passing cars slowed down to have a look. Very soon after a police car roared up to stop the mod and rocker war that had been reported. They surrounded the Beatles car and started to drag driver Bill out of his seat. Then they saw who the other occupants of the car were and they realised that they'd been had. After a few quick smiles and autographs the boys continued on their way home.

SEPTEMBER DATES

2 Convention Hall, Philadelphia; 3 Indianapolis State Fair; 4 Auditorium, Milwaukee; 5 International Amphitheatre, Chicago; 6 Olympic Stadium, Detroit; 7 Maple Leaf Gardens, Toronto; 8 Forum, Montreal; 11 Gator Bowl, Jacksonville; 12 Boston Gardens; 13 Civic Centre, Baltimore; 14 Civic Arena, Pittsburgh; 15 Public Auditorium, Cleveland; 16 City Park Stadium, New Orleans; 18 Memorial, Dallas; 20 Charity Show, New York.





One fan sent John a giant sized comb, which he's using here.

SHOOTING THE BEATLES

Continued from page 7

picture first time, then it's fine. The boys won't repeat it.

"Early on, they knew very little about cameras apart from looking into the lens. Now, they're all very keen on photography, specially George.

Expert Ringo

"I tried to teach them technical things about exposure and so on. Later, I worked it into the usual sessions. I'd take a shot of George and ask Ringo what exposure he thought I

should give it... and he got it right every time!

"The boys naturally have their good days and bad. When they're tired, they lack that sparkle needed to get good and flattering pictures. But as we've toured our way through thousands and thousands of miles, they usually come up with something off-beat.

"I remember that fantastic Carnegie Hall concert. Official photographers weren't allowed in. I smuggled in my small camera. And I found that nobody had told the audience not to bring cameras, so there was a dazzling blaze of flashlights from all over as the boys came on.

"And I'm very impressed with the way the boys feel concern for the fans. Especially in Holland where the police got very rough with teenagers. John complained

bitterly... even refused to sign an autograph for a Chief Inspector! That was his protest for the fans.

"Individually? Paul is the one who thinks up ideas and is always helpful to everybody.

"George is best when he's doing something, like re-stringing a guitar. He has his off-days, but he's very keen on cameras. I photographed his E-Type Jaguar the day he got it... he smashed it up the next day.

"Ringo was a bit unsure to start with. Now, he's full of confidence. He has a great face to 'capture'. John is sometimes the most tricky to get absolutely RIGHT.

"My most memorable moments? The Washington concert, for its atmosphere, and the fan-gatherings in London and Liverpool."

One Beatle looking really happy about the American trip.



THE **Beatles** BOOK

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